

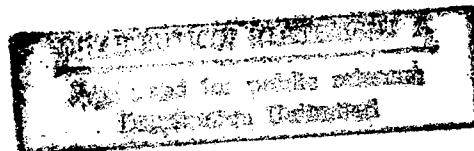
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30 MARCH 1988



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Arms Control

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Contracts Issues for Research on Military Radar Satellite

52200019 Ottawa *THE OTTAWA CITIZEN* in English
15 Feb 88 p C17

[Text] The Defence Department has issued two new contracts worth about \$500,000 to Spar Aerospace for research on a military radar satellite that might someday watch for bombers and cruise missiles approaching Canada.

A list of newly-awarded government research contracts shows the two technical studies, one worth \$299,999 and the other \$196,319, were awarded in January to Spar of Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Que., near Montreal.

Lt Col Murray MacDonald, the officer in charge of developing the project and showing whether the satellite can be built in Canada, said in an interview that the project appears to be feasible and can take advantage of Canadian technology.

The \$50 million research and development project which started about a year ago, runs to about 7 years with the heaviest spending to come near the end of that time.

Eventually the cost of a package of 4 to 10 satellites, with ground receiving stations, launching charges and the rest of the equipment, could reach \$7 billion to \$10 billion.

But MacDonald cautioned that the department is nowhere near the day when a decision to spend the money will have to be made. Current studies aim only to determine the feasibility of space-based radars and to pinpoint the kinds of technologies that will be needed.

But the long-range uses of the space radar have been defined.

The satellites, in polar orbits circling the globe, will look down for aircraft and other flying objects approaching Canadian territory. They won't detect higher-flying ballistic missiles, which arc far above the atmosphere before heading down toward their targets.

And MacDonald says it is still too early to say whether cruise missiles can be detected. The small size and ground-hugging flight patterns of the new high-tech weapons makes them hard to detect from space.

But technological innovations might make small objects detectable by the time the Canadian satellites are in the construction phase.

For now, the aim is to develop equipment that will provide wide area surveillance, covering the area "all the way up through the Arctic to the Pole, and right up to Soviet airspace."

MacDonald also says there is no connection between the Canadian space radar project and the American Strategic Defence Initiative, known as SDI or Star Wars.

/12232

Soviet Diplomat, Canadian Officials on Arctic Proposal

Soviet Diplomat, Beatty
52200017 Toronto *THE GLOBE AND MAIL* in English 17 Feb 88 pp A1, A2

[Article by Ross Howard]

[Text] Ottawa—The Soviet Union offered yesterday to discuss almost any aspect of joint Arctic interests with Canada as a way of accelerating talks that could lead to demilitarization of the Arctic.

Announcing the latest offer of scientific and cultural talks, Alexei Makarov, first counsellor at the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa, played down Defence Minister Perrin Beatty's negative reaction to specific demilitarization proposals last week.

The Soviet Union does not consider Mr Beatty's "cold shoulder" to be the definitive Canadian position, Mr Makarov said.

"We are still hopeful reason will prevail."

Mr Beatty said last week outside the House of Commons that the Soviet proposal to demilitarize the Arctic regions of northern Europe and North America is meaningless unless it specifically includes demilitarization of the adjacent Kola Peninsula in the USSR, an area of concentrated Soviet military installations around Murmansk.

Mr Makarov, the second-ranking Soviet diplomat in Canada, said Mr Beatty's dismissal of the offer overlooked the possibility of putting a demilitarized Kola Peninsula on an agenda for later action, once Arctic talks are underway.

To dismantle all military facilities there now would be an enormously one-sided gesture, surrendering security over one of the Soviet Union's two ocean outlets (the other is on the Pacific Ocean), comparable to the United States demilitarizing its Atlantic Coast, Mr Makarov said.

"But let us talk about it all. The time has come," he added.

He said that the Soviet Union, having achieved approximate military parity with the West after playing catch-up for 40 years, now has discovered that "we don't like it, do not want it," and seeks a global reduction in armaments.

He repeated some of the recent Soviet offers for information sharing on scientific, cultural, environmental and energy matters—on a bilateral or multilateral basis—with other countries in the Arctic region. He said that Sweden, Finland and Norway have already expressed interest.

The expanded Soviet demilitarization proposal includes a reduction in frequency of both North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Warsaw Pact military maneuvers in the region to once every 2 years, a ban on Soviet and U.S. submarine activity in the Arctic, and curtailment of anti-submarine activity in the North Atlantic by both sides.

Mr Makarov acknowledged that there has been little public discussion in Canada of the proposal—first raised by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev last October—and that much of the reaction has been negative.

But, echoing the tone of boundless enthusiasm for new peace initiatives that has become Mr Gorbachev's hallmark, Mr Makarov told reporters at the Soviet Embassy that "We are serious, damn serious, about this," and are prepared to wait patiently for a favorable Canadian response.

He cited examples of what he said would be opportunities for Canada to scale down its own militarization of the north, including ending U.S. cruise missile testing over the northwest and cancelling the planned purchase of nuclear-powered submarines.

The cruise tests are obviously conducted with the intent of using the missiles against Moscow—"The Alberta terrain is similar to Moscow"—but would be unnecessary in an improved environment of peaceful coexistence, he said. Nor would it be necessary for Canada to "show the nuclear flag in the Arctic, or under the ice."

NDP Critic Jewett

52200017 Ottawa *THE OTTAWA CITIZEN* in English
20 Feb 88 p A5

[Text] Defence Minister Perrin Beatty should cool his rhetoric about the Soviet Union and agree to discussions with Moscow on reducing arms in the Arctic, Pauline Jewett, New Democrat arms control critic, said Friday.

Beatty would be making "a mistake of historic proportions if he rejects talks with the Soviets about possibilities for demilitarizing the Arctic," Jewett said.

The MP was referring to Soviet offers to discuss a wide range of Arctic issues dealing with the military, environment, resource development and scientific cooperation.

The news release accuses Beatty of suffering from "outdated thinking typical of the 1950's Cold War," because the minister's white paper on defence last June singled out the Soviet Union as the greatest threat to Canadian security.

However, Beatty is on record as saying he would welcome constructive talks with the Soviets on Arctic matters, as long as the Soviets are sincere about making real reduction in their massive military presence in the Soviet North, particularly in the Kola Peninsula.

The peninsula, southeast of Murmansk, is the home base for the Soviet northern fleet.

/12232

NATO Summit 'Tone of Harmony' Viewed

*OW041536 Beijing XINHUA in English
1507 GMT 4 Mar 88*

[“News Analysis: NATO Summit Shows a ‘Tone of Harmony’ (by Le Zhude and Liu Yongsheng)”—XINHUA headline]

[Text] Brussels, March 4 (XINHUA)—With a “tone of harmony,” the just concluded NATO summit has succeeded in coordinating the alliance’s position on nuclear deterrence and demonstrating its unity.

The summit ended Thursday with a declaration calling for deterrence based upon nuclear and conventional forces.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan said after the gathering that he had never seen such a “harmonious” NATO summit. The Western press also described the summit as one which ended with a “tone of harmony.” The summit stressed the coordination of NATO’s defense policies and disarmament strategies, setting the tone for disarmament talks with the Soviets.

The meeting hammered out guidelines for the conventional disarmament talks which said NATO will not put forward or accept any options detrimental to nuclear deterrence.

The guidelines illustrate NATO’s persistence on its strategy of nuclear deterrence and send a signal to the Soviets that conventional disarmament talks should not be conducted at the expense of nuclear disarmament.

Leaders of the 16 NATO member countries re-emphasized the U.S.-Western Europe defense ties, assessed the current state of East-West relations and reviewed the opportunities and challenges that NATO faces.

The NATO leaders also showed their full support for the INF treaty and the superpower strategic nuclear arms negotiations.

Reagan allayed the Western allies’ fears that U.S. troops stationed in Europe might be withdrawn. “American troops will remain in Europe under any administration so long as Europeans want them to stay,” he said.

However, differences exist over the modernization of tactical nuclear weapons deployed in Federal Germany. The United States and Britain strongly advocate such modernization while Federal Germany is opposed to it

for fear that it might become a target of attacks from the Warsaw Pact countries. France and the other NATO countries expressed reservations on this matter.

PRC Reporter Witnesses Withdrawal of Missiles

*OW121600 Beijing XINHUA in English
1535 GMT 12 Mar 88*

[Text] Alma-Ata, the Soviet Union, March 12 (XINHUA)—The first batch of Soviet SS-12 shorter-range missiles withdrawn from Democratic Germany and Czechoslovakia are being unloaded at Karabulak in Soviet Central Asia.

The missiles, to be stored at a nearby tactical missiles base, will be destroyed after the Soviet-U.S. intermediate-range nuclear force treaty is ratified by the two countries.

Fifteen foreign reporters including one from XINHUA witnessed the unloading and transferring of the 21 missiles which were dismantled and withdrawn from Waren, Democratic Germany, two weeks ago.

Karabulak, 177 kilometers north of Alma-Ata, capital of the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan, is close to the Chinese border.

Major Sergiy Gorokunov, commander of the Soviet missile contingent in Waren who arrived along with his missiles, told reporters that these SS-12s were deployed in Democratic Germany in 1983.

He said that all the shorter-range missiles withdrawn from Democratic Germany and Czechoslovakia as well as those deployed in the Soviet Union will be stored at Karabulak and destroyed at a place 12 kilometers away.

The withdrawal of Soviet shorter-range missiles before the INF treaty takes effect was a step taken by the Soviet Union to prove its sincerity in nuclear disarmament.

The major said the remaining shorter-range missiles deployed outside the Soviet Union are on their way to this destination.

The Soviet Union deployed 54 SS-12s and 53 SS-23s in Democratic Germany and 39 SS-12s in Czechoslovakia around the end of 1983 to counter-balance the U.S. deployment of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

The SS-12s can hit targets 900 kilometers away while the SS-23s have a maximum range of only 500 kilometers.

The Soviets have never announced how many medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles deployed on its own territory will also have to be destroyed under the INF treaty signed in Washington on December 8 last year.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

NATO's Arms Plans, U.S. Report Criticized

LD242247 Prague CTK in English

2150 GMT 24 Feb 88

[Text] Prague Feb 24 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry spokesman today criticized new arms plans of the North Atlantic alliance, saying the pact apparently sought new weapons systems to compensate for missiles lost under the December Soviet-U.S. Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty.

In an interview with CTK, the spokesman, Dusan Rovensky, also said a report by a panel of U.S. military experts issued last month ran counter to positive international developments, and expressed concern about plans to move closer to the borders of the socialist community U.S. fighters due to be withdrawn from Spain.

Rovensky named a joint French-British missile project, U.S. plans to fit 150 B-52 bombers with cruise missiles and a call by the NATO supreme European commander, General John Galvin, on the alliance to upgrade its Lance missile as clear examples of NATO's intention to make up for the loss of the INF rockets.

"One could mention other similar examples, and it cannot but be seen as an effort to compensate by new weapons systems for the loss of the two classes of nuclear missiles that will be eliminated following the ratification of the Soviet-American treaty," he said.

But he said NATO governments differed on whether to seek replacements for the missiles, "and even some influential circles now conclude it is necessary to take advantage of the favourable atmosphere created after the Washington summit."

Rovensky said goodwill was essential for the arms reduction process to continue and added the Soviet pledge to withdraw from Czechoslovakia its Shorter-Range missiles even before the INF Treaty takes effect was "an exemplary act helping in a major way to improve the international atmosphere."

Asked to comment on "discriminate deterrence", a Pentagon report released in January by a panel of prominent U.S. military specialists and outlining possible new trends in U.S. nuclear missile strategy, Rovensky said: "It contains ideas that run counter to the promising international developments."

He added the study's rejection of a total nuclear and chemical ban was "particularly alarming."

The spokesman welcomed Spain's decision to withdraw from its territory the 72 U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers but said U.S. plans to move the planes to Italy was a reason for concern.

He stressed that the jets, if stationed in the country, would in fact be 2,000 km closer to the borders of the socialist community.

"Such developments lead to suspicion that NATO is looking for any possibility to replace the missiles due to be liquidated with other destructive systems," he said.

CSCE Follow-up Meeting Convened

CSCE Delegates Briefed on Jakes Initiative

AU020911 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
27 Feb 88 p 1

[CTK report: "M. Jakes Proposal Presented at CSCE Meeting in Vienna; Zone of Trust Along the Warsaw Pact-NATO Line"]

[Text] Vienna—This Friday [26 February] Frantisek Dolezel, head of the CSSR delegation, acquainted the participants of the CSCE follow-up meeting in Vienna with the proposal submitted by Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, namely, to create a zone of trust, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between Warsaw Pact and NATO states.

During the plenum, F. Dolezel briefed the delegates of participating countries on all the main points of the proposal, which was presented by Milos Jakes in his speech on the 40th anniversary of Victorious February. He cited in particular the passage saying that the CSSR is making extraordinary efforts to develop an all-around dialogue, and is striving (with the aim of expanding cooperation) to achieve a successful conclusion of the CSCE follow-up meeting.

The head of the Czechoslovak delegation then underscored the part of M. Jakes' statement, which states that Czechoslovakia wants all military, political, economic, ecological, and humanitarian issues to be approached comprehensively. He then submitted suggestions for reducing the military confrontation and consolidating trust in the countries lying along the border between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, as well as suggestions for broadening the political dialogue, comprehensively expanding cooperation, removing obstacles, and resolving existing problems.

F. Dolezel expressed the conviction that the new Czechoslovak initiative will substantially contribute toward improving the atmosphere in Europe. The countries along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO could provide an example of how to implement the Helsinki process. The current international situation in East-West relations not only permits such a step, it even demands it. The Czechoslovak initiative can also contribute toward accomplishing the tasks of the CSCE follow-up meeting.

CSSR Envoy Addresses Meeting
AU081859 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
5 Mar 88 p 1

[CTK report: "For Firm Foundations of Our European Home; Statement by Head of Czechoslovak Delegation at the Follow-up Meeting in Vienna"—dated 4 March]

[Text] Vienna—Frantisek Dolezel, who heads the Czechoslovak delegation, spoke on Friday [4 March] at the CSCE follow-up meeting in Vienna about the extraordinary significance of economic, scientific-technical, commercial, and ecological cooperation. He stressed that Czechoslovakia's constructive approach to these problems (called "the second basket" at the follow-up meeting) is testified to by the proposal to convene an economic forum in Prague.

The deliberations on other projects within the process of European security and cooperation must be approached in the spirit of cooperation, not confrontation, the head of the Czechoslovak delegation went on to say. It is impossible to approach decisionmaking from the position of force, since this corresponds neither to the spirit, nor to the letter of the CSCE Final Act. If our European home is to have firm foundations and if we want to provide it with further floors, everybody must do his share.

In connection with the problems of international trade, F. Dolezel pointed out the obstacles used by the Western countries to hamper the development of trade and international cooperation. He criticized the lists of commodities which the Western countries are forbidden to export to socialist countries (according to a decision of the so-called Coordinating Committee for East-West trade). He stated that nobody denies countries their right to protect the interests of their security. However, what the socialist countries condemn is the fact that the extensive bans are substantially restricting trade between the states.

NATO Seen Proposing 'Unacceptable' Reductions
AU141545 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
5 Mar 88 p 7

[Stanislav Stepanek dispatch: "Unity With the Aid of a Dictionary; Our Special Reporter on the NATO Summit"]

[Excerpts] The summit meeting of the top representatives of 16 NATO countries in Brussels ended with "absolute success." At the press conferences in the Luns Hall of NATO headquarters everybody strove to convince the listeners of this. [passage omitted]

But how has the Brussels meeting really contributed to the further development of East-West relations? In the first place, we can see signs of an endeavor to appropriate the first fruit yielded by the disarmament process, and to reverse the development of public opinion that is unfavorable toward NATO's policy. Regrettably, in future we can envisage a trend toward complicating, that means hampering, the disarmament process in Europe. This is particularly typical of issues of conventional arms. In speaking of the asymmetry with regard to these arms, the declaration of the Brussels meeting refrains (for obvious reasons) from mentioning precise figures. However, the data leaked by the individual delegations enable us to surmise that the West will primarily be proposing a disproportionate reduction which, as it will know in advance, will be unacceptable. Furthermore, the alliance is promoting the thesis that a numerical equilibrium does not mean equal security; the large number of variants it presents enable it to demand practically anything. As a "safeguard" it uses the "argument" that, in any case, the achieved equilibrium cannot be sufficient, since there can be no security in Europe without respect for human rights. In this way the participants in the Brussels meeting have adopted a concept which will not make any easier the task of those who strive for a really lasting and stable peace, and for the establishment of cooperation in an atmosphere of trust.

CTK: SS-12 Missiles Awaiting Liquidation
LD132036 Prague CTK in English
1821 GMT 13 Mar 88

[By Jan Stejskal]

[Text] Alma Ata March 13 (CTK)—The first dozens of shorter-range nuclear missiles, which started to be removed from the territories of the GDR and Czechoslovakia on February 25, have arrived at the Sary-Ozek base, 200 kms north of here, at the weekend and are waiting for liquidation after the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. INF treaty.

The last trains carrying the missiles are expected to arrive at Sary-Ozek within seven days.

Altogether 146 Soviet OTR 22 (SS 12) and OTR 23 (SS 23) shorter-range nuclear missiles have stationed in Czechoslovakia and the GDR, 39 at one base in Czechoslovakia and the rest at six bases in the GDR. After the INF treaty is ratified, the missiles will be destroyed near Sary-Ozek and their launching equipment and transporters will be liquidated at the Stankovo military area in Belorussia.

All Soviet OTR missiles, including those stationed in the European and Asian parts of the USSR, totalling 926 missiles with a range of 500 to 1,000 kilometers, will be destroyed at Sary-Ozek.

Soviet Army Colonel Vyacheslev Ogurtsev told newsmen that the missiles would be liquidated in a defile about 120 kilometers from the base. Six of them are to be destroyed in a day. Their destruction will be watched by representatives of the Soviet Armed Forces and U.S. Army observers stationed at Sary-Ozek.

The containers with the missiles are stationed in the open air, which facilitates control by space satellites.

Chnoupek Writes on Jakes Proposal
AU180913 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
15 Mar 88 p 3

[Article by Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs: "Call For Action; Comrade M. Jakes' Proposal to Create Zone of Confidence in Europe"]

[Text] The present times confront the socialist states' foreign policy—that most sensitive and at the same time superconductive [nejvodorejší] instrument. The people of our countries, our workers and communist parties hear a historic call: to play the decisive role in preserving human civilization and averting a nuclear apocalypse. The tasks following for us from this historic mission have been set by the congresses of our parties. Our own country's foreign policy program is formulated in the resolution adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress. It proceeds from the same profound view of the present and

future of the world as the 27th CPSU Congress. It orients our every effort toward securing a positive international-political framework for the development of our socialist society.

The seventh CPCZ Central Committee session charged our foreign policy with the task of filling this activity with greater dynamism in solving those problems of our present world that have not yet been resolved—including problems that are considered insoluble.

The specific form this task should take was described in the document "Orientation of Czechoslovak Foreign Policy" for this year. This binding directive for the Czechoslovak foreign services (which has been appraised and approved by the top party and state agencies) instructs us above all to ensure favorable external conditions for comprehensively restructuring our socialist society.

Prominent among these conditions is the further consolidation of friendship and deepening of cooperation and alliance with the Soviet Union and the fraternal countries, as well as the enrichment of their common course in the international arena with new incentives to promote the consolidation of peace and security, and cooperation among all peoples.

Each of the fraternal socialist countries is energetically contributing to the creation and implementation of a coordinated foreign policy line. The restructuring process has substantially enhanced the dynamics of these activities and provided new opportunities and broader scope for initiative, specific proposals, an innovative course, and flexible tactics.

Socialist Czechoslovakia is creatively participating in this historic movement. Its purposeful activities are helping to build our common European home.

This approach is reflected in our foreign policy initiatives, based on our country's exposed position in the center of Europe and on the decisive influence which the situation on our continent has on peace throughout the world. Our initiatives are oriented toward giving the individual spheres of the comprehensive system of international peace and security realistic contents. They draw on our rich cultural past, on the historical legacy of its greatest figures. They correspond to the age of nuclear missiles.

These initiatives concern fundamental issues and contribute to international peace and security, both on the European continent and beyond. This applies to our Vienna initiative to convene an economic forum, as well as to proposals on international cooperation in pursuing disarmament goals, on a program for normalizing international economic relations, and on international cooperation in environmental protection, all of which we submitted at the United Nations together with our allies.

We approach the fulfillment of our foreign policy goals under conditions that are psychologically far more favorable than the conditions prevailing during the past few years.

They are promisingly influenced by the first treaty ever to be concluded on the elimination of nuclear arms—a document bearing the signatures of top USSR and U.S. representatives. Together with the preparation of the treaty on a 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive weapons, it creates realistic conditions for proceeding toward the goal set by Mikhail Gorbachev on behalf of the first country of socialism on 15 January 1986—namely, a world without nuclear arms.

This situation is also influenced by the fact that mankind has never been as close to banning chemical weapons as it is now, and also by the progress and preparation of negotiations on reducing armed forces and conventional armaments.

Precisely in this positive atmosphere, at a time when Western Europe is searching for its place in a world without intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, Comrade Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, has come out with his proposal to create a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states. The significance of this initiative was symbolically enhanced by the fact that it was proclaimed from the rostrum of the solemn session at Prague Castle in honor of the 40th anniversary of Victorious February.

The proposal fully expresses the supremely topical and urgent effort to achieve a peaceful world. It proceeds from the objective need to further strengthen the pan-European process. It organically develops and comprehensively reflects the experience of many years of enforcing the CSCE Final Act, and it takes into account the new situation and new demands. It is an expression of a responsible reaction to the vital needs of countries which are in the same or a similar situation and which have borders that are simultaneously the borders of Europe—a continent divided into two military-political groupings, the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Or should not good-neighborly relations also mean common responsibility?

The CPCZ Central Committee general secretary's initiative is addressed to states which (more often than not) have concordant or close interests despite their different socioeconomic systems—and primarily to those states on whose territories the first shots were fired in many past wars. It concerns the area which would be totally destroyed in the nuclear war to which another conflict would lead. Due to its political impact, our initiative concerns all of Europe, all nations, all people of good will who are sincerely concerned about the peaceful future of mankind.

The concept of a zone of confidence is both open and accessible to sensible and constructive views from all countries involved. It is striving to reflect the balance of interests in specific measures. It envisages all forms of cooperation, from bilateral to subregional to pan-European.

The striking feature of our proposal is that it is comprehensive. As Comrade M. Jakes said in his speech on the 40th anniversary of Victorious February, "reliable peace and security cannot be ensured merely by adopting measures in the military sphere. The incentives yielded by the dialogue on disarmament must be used to achieve progress in all spheres of cooperation." That is why the zone of confidence is equally oriented toward the political, military, economic, ecological, and humanitarian spheres.

The new Czechoslovak initiative essentially develops further the idea of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, applying and developing it under European regional conditions—also in places where the risks of a war are particularly great, but where favorable prerequisites have been created to develop cooperation among countries with different social systems. From this viewpoint our initiative is a significant step toward creating a comprehensive system of security and cooperation.

It follows up the initiatives of other socialist countries, is linked with them, and develops them.

The initiative complements the "Jaruzelski Plan" on limiting armament and consolidating trust in central Europe.

It points in the same direction as the enterprising proposal addressed by three significant European political parties (the fraternal MSZMP, the Finnish party of social democrats, and the Italian Socialist Party) to the non-nuclear European countries.

It follows up our preceding initiatives, presented together with other socialist countries.

The first of them was submitted by the CSSR (together with the GDR) on the level of joint official proposal to the FRG Government in Spring 1987. We proposed establishing a 150-km corridor free of all nuclear arms on each side of the common CSSR and GDR border with the FRG—that means precisely in the area along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, an area that is literally saturated with all kinds of weapons, particularly nuclear weapons. We submitted this idea only a few months after the historic meeting of top USSR and U.S. representatives in Reykjavik, which represented a breakthrough in thinking about the entire disarmament process and, above all, its most important, nuclear, component. This was when USSR and U.S.

representatives were conducting energetic negotiations in Geneva on the possibility of removing intermediate-range missiles from Europe.

The idea of a gradual subregional solution as the first step in the process of realistic disarmament in that situation reaffirmed the vital interest of the socialist countries in finding a quick and effective way out of the predicament. In essence, this proposal continues to be topical even after the signing of the Washington treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles—because, in fact, certain categories of nuclear weapons continue to remain in Europe even after this treaty, and our continent cannot be secure with such weapons.

We naturally devote great attention to the suggestion made by E. Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the GDR State Council, to arrange an international exchange of views and experience (on the problems of establishing nuclear zones) between representatives of states, political parties, and international movements. We regard this meeting, which should be held in Berlin in June 1988, as a significant initiative; and we fully support it.

In September 1985 we proposed to the FRG Government (as before, in agreement with the GDR) that it assess the possibilities of establishing a chemical-free zone which would involve the territories of these three states. Since all three sides agreed on this, corresponding negotiations have been opened in Geneva. The establishment of a chemical-free zone in central Europe should help to bring about a global ban on these inhuman means of mass destruction, and help eliminate them.

M. Jakes' proposal to set up a zone of confidence should also help activate the disarmament negotiations on all levels. This would include the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, which we regard as the main negotiating body of the international community in the disarmament sector—as a unique multilateral mechanism for preparing specific international legal acts in such urgent issues as globally banning the production of chemical weapons and eliminating them, preventing the militarization of space, or banning nuclear arms tests. That is also why Czechoslovakia, convinced that the disarmament conference in Geneva is best suited to bridge the existing marked contradictions between declarations and actual deeds, came out at the Prague session of the Warsaw Pact states' Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in October 1987 with the initiative to work out a joint proposal, contained in the document "On Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament."

Another significant foreign policy initiative proposed by Comrade M. Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, is linked with the personality and work of Jan Amos Comenius—known throughout the world as a

scientist, writer, thinker, and humanitarian, as the founder of pedagogical sciences, diplomat, bishop of the Unity of Brethren, patriot, and peace fighter.

In March 1992, 400 years after his birth, we propose to convene in Prague a world conference of educators under the motto "Legacy of Jan Amos Comenius and the Education of Man For the 21st Century"; the conference should be the culmination of celebrations of this significant world cultural anniversary under the auspices of UNESCO. We want to invite to this conference outstanding educators and teachers, scientists, people who have become prominent in culture and the arts, politicians, clergymen, and representatives of the mass media—all those who are involved in educating man, in shaping his thoughts and sentiments, consolidating his moral values, awakening his respect for life, and strengthening his longing for peace.

We in Czechoslovakia are consistently, traditionally developing the universal, all-human, generally valid values contained in Comenius' work. However, this significant anniversary provides us with a unique opportunity to ponder the rich spiritual legacy of his work, which has outdistanced time by whole centuries—an opportunity to evaluate his admirable, truly titanic effort to find a way out of the many individual, social, and political antagonisms of his time.

The topical nature of his spiritual legacy is acquiring new dimensions particularly today, on the threshold of the third millennium, in the nuclear-space age when literally the very existence of mankind is being decided. The only sensible path out of the present "labyrinth of the world" leads via consistent adherence to the principles of peaceful coexistence of states with different socialist systems. We can say without exaggeration that Comenius' "global" ideas and methods are fully contained precisely in the peace program of socialism.

Soon after their publication the proposals presented by Comrade M. Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, attracted attention in many countries. This attention was mainly focused on his proposal to establish a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good neighborly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The reaction to this proposal has been unambiguously positive. The fraternal socialist countries have supported our proposals fully and unambiguously. The proposal has also been received with interest in the capitalist countries; the proposals are now being studied there, and the first reactions show that their comprehensive concept is meeting with the greatest appreciation. The initiatives have also found an echo in the developing countries, where (for instance) it is thought that this initiative [singular as published] can also positively affect the solution of regional conflicts. It is thus evident that the proposals made by Comrade M. Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, have already

become a significant component of efforts to establish a more secure world of peace, which would enter a new and yet more demanding stage.

The hopeful tendencies have opened prospects of peace and cooperation for mankind. Whether these dreams of numerous generations will really materialize depends on whether the forces of peace will know how to make use of the suitable conditions and to develop effective efforts for peace. The socialist states, their new foreign-political thinking, and their flexible, dynamic, and enterprising foreign policy will continue to be the core and crystallization point of all these efforts. Our party, our socialist state, our diplomacy, all want to fully accept this challenge.

PRC Spokesman Supports Jakes Initiative
*AU171213 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
15 Mar 88 p 7*

[CTK Beijing dispatch: "China Appreciates M. Jakes' Proposal"]

[Text] Beijing (CTK correspondent)—"We appreciate Czechoslovakia's positive attitude to detente in Europe." This was declared by the spokesman for the PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Monday [14 March], in response to the CTK correspondent's question regarding China's stand on the initiative of Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, to set up a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line dividing the states of NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

"China supports all efforts contributing to detente. We hope that the Warsaw Pact and NATO will conduct talks with all due seriousness and reach an agreement that will really help to ease tension in Europe and worldwide," the spokesman said.

Soviet Missile Troops Completing Withdrawal
*LD161128 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1100 GMT 16 Mar 88*

[Text] Members of the Soviet Army are completing in Hranice na Morave today the withdrawal of the operational-tactical OTR-22 missiles from this sole Soviet base deploying these shorter-range nuclear missiles on the territory of Czechoslovakia. A special train now being prepared for the departure is one of the last which have been taking equipment and its crews to the Soviet Union since 25 February, ahead of the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Chemical Weapons Ban Discussed in Geneva

GDR Delegate Speaks

LD081342 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1110 GMT 8 Mar 88

[Text] Geneva, 8 Mar (ADN)—The GDR regards the completion of a convention banning chemical weapons as an extraordinarily urgent task faced by the Geneva Disarmament Conference. This was stressed today in a plenum of the 40-state body by Dr Herald Rose, head of the GDR delegation, who has submitted to the body a working paper on forming an executive council on this question.

Like other states the GDR holds the view, Dr Rose said, that the real chance to eliminate these weapons of mass destruction once and for all must now be exploited in a determined manner. It is a case of another zero solution of global extent. No stocks of chemical weapons or storage sites must be excluded from the ban.

The GDR representative earlier briefed the disarmament conference on the international conference in support of nuclear free zones on 21-22 June in Berlin, of which GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker has assumed patronage.

CSSR Delegate on Relations

*LD092056 Prague CTK in English
2018 GMT 9 Mar 88*

[Text] Geneva March 9 (CTK correspondent)—Delegations of Czechoslovakia, GDR and FRG held talks at the U.N. Geneva office today on chemical weapons, their elimination in Central Europe and destruction.

Head of the Czechoslovak delegation Milos Vejvoda stressed his country's interest in good neighbourly relations between the NATO and Warsaw Treaty states in all fields as proposed by Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes. Part of this initiative is Czechoslovakia's activity in the creation of a zone free of chemical weapons. The zone, along with guarantees that chemical weapons, including binary weapons whose production has been started in the USA, will not be deployed in Europe, would certainly contribute to the advance of talks on their complete ban, he said.

The meeting, dealing also with other aspects of banning chemical weapons, was held in a constructive and friendly atmosphere and its participants agreed to continue the talks.

Update of SS-12 Missiles Withdrawl

SS-12's Arrive at Saryozek Destruction Site *LD121229 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1157 GMT 12 Mar 88*

[Text] Alma-Ata, 12 Mar (ADN)—The first Soviet short-range missiles withdrawn ahead of schedule from GDR territory arrived today at the place of destruction stipulated in the Soviet-U.S. treaty eliminating nuclear missiles of medium and shorter range. After a journey of some 7,000 km by railway, the missiles of type OTR-22, which are also known by the designation SS-12, were unloaded at the military site of Saryozek, about 180 km northeast of Alma-Ata, where they will be stored until their destruction after the treaty's ratification. The return of these missiles ahead of schedule from their places of deployment at Waren an der Mueritz and Bischofswerda began on 25 February. It was agreed to as a gesture of good will between the USSR, the GDR, and the CSSR.

The arrival of the convoy with the Soviet shorter-range missiles withdrawn from the Czechoslovak deployment area of Hranice na Morave, and other missiles withdrawn from the GDR is awaited at the Kazakhstan destruction site in the next few days.

Moscow-accredited correspondents from eight countries, including the GDR, had the opportunity in Saryozek of following the unloading and storing of the OTR-22 missiles at close quarters, and of filming and photographing this.

Remaining GSFG-Missile Troops Depart *LD132007 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1843 GMT 13 Mar 88*

[Text] Neubrandenburg, 13 Mar (ADN)—The last Army members of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany [GSFG] troop unit equipped with operative-tactical missiles type OTR-22 (SS-12) left the district [Kreis] town of Waren in the GDR Area [Bezirk] of Neubrandenburg this afternoon.

The buildings and plant temporarily used by them were taken over from GSFG members by representatives of the National People's Army as representatives of the GDR Government. The site will be prepared for handing over as an FDGB vacation spot.

With the withdrawal of the Soviet missile unit the governments of the USSR and the GDR are documenting their firm determination consistently to continue the course of disarmament, reason, realism, and goodwill.

Pact Commission Meets in Sofia on Disarmament *LD162007 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1626 GMT 16 Mar 88*

[Text] Sofia, 16 Mar (ADN)—A meeting of the Special Commission of the Warsaw Pact States on Disarmament Questions took place in Sofia today. The experts discussed the prospects of the Vienna consultations involving representatives of the Warsaw Pact states and NATO and the results of bilateral contacts with the NATO states, the neutral and nonaligned European states, which are connected with the preparation of a mandate for negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals. The commission continued its work on the joint concept for future negotiations in this area.

June Meeting on Nuclear-Free Zones Praised *AU201555 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 88 p 2*

[“NG” commentary: “Useful and in Keeping With the Requirements of Our Time”]

[Text] The convening of an international meeting for nuclear-free zones in Berlin has met with strong response all over the world. Governments of socialist, nonaligned, and neutral states, international women's and youth organizations, political parties and trade union associations, peace movements and church representatives from many countries have voiced their approval of the conference scheduled for the middle of June. They all assess the GDR's initiative as useful and in keeping with the requirements of the time.

The idea to limit the nuclear arms race by setting up nuclear-free zones emerged more than 3 decades ago. It was explicitly mentioned for the first time in 1957 in the Warsaw Pact states' plan for a nuclear-free central Europe, the so-called Rapacki Plan. Later neutral and nonaligned countries took up the idea. In 1967 it became a reality in Latin America, and in 1985 in the South Pacific. At the same time a real network of projects aimed at keeping entire groups of states, continents, and oceans free from nuclear weapons or at eliminating them was created in many parts of the world. A large number of states and peoples are committed to this idea. It is the explicit concern of the Berlin meeting to provide a forum for them to voice their views. It wants to offer a venue for a candid exchange of views and experiences on nuclear-free regions, zones, and corridors, and on vital questions of mankind.

The particular topicality of the issue is also linked with the fact that a change for the better is beginning to be discernible in the international arena. With the signing of the INF treaty by the USSR and the United States on 8 December 1987, and with the planned halving of the strategic nuclear arsenals of the two superpowers the path of nuclear disarmament has been embarked on. It is the prime necessity of our time to extend it without delay.

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to other spheres in Europe and other parts of the world. The creation of nuclear-free zones can be a significant contribution to this process. If a nuclear-free corridor was set up in central Europe, for example, as proposed by the GDR and CSSR, on border between Warsaw Pact and NATO, a 300 km-wide strip, short-range missiles and nuclear battlefield weapons would disappear. Thus a chance would emerge to set up a continuous nuclear-free zone extending from Scandinavia to the Balkans.

The consistent attitude of the GDR, which advocates a nuclear-free world and a secure peace, was recently made clear by Erich Honecker in his speech at the Premnitz Synthetic Fiber Works. He stated: "We are not impatient. Everything needs its own time. But we believe that one disarmament step should be followed by another so that mankind will be free from nuclear weapons by the year 2000." The view that nuclear-free zones can be such a step is gaining importance all over the world.

This is the reason why the upcoming Berlin meeting has met with such great response among all those advocating liberation from nuclear weapons and why it has been welcomed as useful and in keeping with the requirements of our time.

ADN Reports Departure of Last SS-12's
LD191740 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1700 GMT 19 Mar 88

[Text] Neubrandenburg, 19 Mar (ADN)—Today the last railway consignment with Soviet missile troops, safety equipment, and material of the units of the Soviet forces equipped with the OTR 22 (SS-12) type operational-tactical missiles was seen off. The return of the shorter-range missiles stationed in the GDR is thereby concluded in accordance with an agreement between the USSR and the GDR.

As is well known, the withdrawal of this type of missile began on 25 February in the Kreis town of Waren (Neubrandenburg bezirk) and in the Upper-Lusatian town of Bischofswerda (Dresden bezirk). The population of these towns thanked the Soviet missile troops for their conscientious fulfillment of their military duties to protect peace and socialism, and saw them off on their journey home with great warmth. Hundreds of media representatives from home and abroad reported extensively on this event.

With the withdrawal of the shorter-range missiles, the USSR, in agreement with the GDR and CSSR, fulfills an obligation derived from the treaty signed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan on 8 December 1987, in Washington, even before its ratification.

Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer, the GDR foreign ministry spokesman, said that the premature withdrawal of the OTR-22's proved that the USSR, the GDR, and the other socialist states stand by their word, sealing it with

concrete deeds. "With this they want to make above all a further contribution to the earliest possible coming into force of the immediate-range missile treaty as well as taking the first effective step toward the agreed-upon elimination of a whole class of nuclear weapons."

This initiative, as shown by the reactions, has triggered approval and great satisfaction among public opinion, the spokesman said. "Worldwide, this unilateral advance concession by the socialist states is being appreciated as a gesture of good will. It is understood as a sign of a genuine disarmament effort and a significant confidence-building measure that is capable of stimulating further steps toward disarmament and the amelioration of the international situation."

"In view of the first practical steps on the withdrawal of the missile arsenals, all states are called on," the spokesman stressed, "to determine their own contribution to the swift and uninterrupted continuation of the disarmament process. The GDR and its allies are in favor of progress on the reduction of all kinds of weapons with comprehensive and very strict verification. They will continue to do everything so that the door opened by the INF treaty to further, comprehensive disarmament will also actually be stepped through."

Accord Reached on 'Preamble' at Vienna Talks
LD211820 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1522 GMT 21 Mar 88

[Text] Vienna, 21 Mar (ADN)—The 23 delegations of the Warsaw Pact and NATO states agreed on a further element in talks in Vienna on Monday on working out a mandate for future negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe.

In the now agreed-on preamble of the mandate for future negotiations, the responsibility of the participating states for greater stability and security in Europe is pointed out, as it is their armed forces that have the most immediate influence on the basic security situation in Europe. The preamble contains the statement that the negotiations will take place within the framework of the CSCE process and that sovereign and independent states will take part in them on the basis of complete equality.

Ambassador Peter Steglich, head of the GDR delegation at the Vienna CSCE meeting, told ADN that the agreement achieved was a further step on the way to the eventual completion of the negotiation mandate.

He emphasized that thanks to the efforts and the flexibility of the delegations of the Warsaw Pact states it had been possible in the past few months to agree on important elements for the negotiation mandate. This included, apart from the preamble, the agreement already achieved on objectives and methods of the negotiations, and the agreement that the disarmament talks in the conventional area would be started in 1988.

Thus, a starting position for settling pending problems had been created. This applied, above all, to the weapon systems to be reduced in order to create greater stability in Europe.

Soviet Missile Withdrawal Assessed

AU231527 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 21 Mar 88 p 2

[“NG” commentary: “Deeds and Proposals”]

[Text] Even before the 8 December 1987, Soviet-U.S.treaty has come into force, the withdrawal of the Soviet shorter-range missiles deployed in the GDR was concluded with the last railway consignment—as reported on page 1—in accordance with the GDR-USSR agreement. The missiles that were stationed in the CSSR were also removed ahead of schedule.

This has again demonstrated to the whole world how serious the socialist states are about disarmament. They stand by their word and seal it with deeds. Over the past year the USSR, the GDR, and CSSR made considerable efforts to bring about the Washington agreement on the elimination of intermediate-range missiles of the longer and shorter range spectrum. Now they are doing everything they can to ensure that the agreement takes effect as soon as possible, so that after ratification it can be implemented in letter and spirit. They are working to ensure that the first USSR-U.S. disarmament treaty will be followed by an agreement on the 50-percent reduction of the strategic nuclear potentials while observing the ABM Treaty. And they advocate the extension of disarmament to other spheres.

The diplomatic activities of the last few days also bear testimony to their active peace policy. In Belgrade Mikhail Gorbachev submitted new proposals aimed at strengthening peace in the Mediterranean. In Bern the USSR and U.S. defense ministers met for the first time in decades. In New York the permanent GDR representative handed over to the UN secretary general Erich Honecker's call for the international meeting on nuclear-free zones, due to take place in Berlin in June.

All these proposals and meetings are designed to promote the cause of peace and disarmament, and to take further steps toward the improvement of the international situation.

USSR Mediterranean Proposals Supported

LD231015 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0238 GMT 23 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 23 Mar ADN—The GDR supports the Soviet Union's latest disarmament proposals for the Mediterranean region, “NEUES DEUTSCHLAND” notes today.

“In this we are led by the recognition that the political and military aspects of this region should not in the long term be excluded from the process of securing peace in Europe. This would doubtlessly also be in the interest of the non-European Mediterranean countries. The great concentrations of fleets in this region which immediately borders Europe requires rather that the on-going confidence- and security-building in the spirit of the Stockholm Document also be extended to the Mediterranean region,” the paper writes. It has become apparent once more: “Socialism is doing everything to exclude war and war-mongering forever, in all regions and all over the globe.”

“NEUES DEUTSCHLAND” goes on to note: “We start from the premise that peace is indivisible. We support securing it on our continent, in all parts of the earth, in the entire world. We know that regional conflicts threaten peace for everyone and that conversely regional steps which give a lead can serve the solution of global issues, the process of detente, and world peace. We have put forward such proposals as the creation of a nuclear weapons-free corridor and a chemical weapons-free zone in central Europe for this very reason.”

Conversion of Waren Missile Site Begins

FDGB Takes Over

LD231501 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1410 GMT 23 Mar 88

[Text] Waren, 23 Mar (ADN)—In the Mecklenburg town of Waren a meeting of hundreds of working people and members of the National People's Army (NVA) is currently taking place.

At the start of the meeting GDR Defense Minister Army General Heinz Kessler handed over the former site for Soviet intermediate- and shorter-range missiles to the FDGB holiday service and handed FDGB National Executive Chairman Harry Tisch a document concerning this from the GDR government.

On behalf of the over 9.5 million GDR trade unionists, Harry Tisch expressed cordial thanks for the holiday site to the SED Central Committee and its general secretary, Erich Honecker, and the government of the GDR.

Vacation Center Planned

LD231758 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1550 GMT 23 Mar 88

[Excerpt] Waren, 23 Mar (ADN)—GDR Defense Minister Heinz Kessler handed over the former site of the Soviet shorter-range INF missiles in Waren (Neubrandenburg Bezirk) to Harry Tisch, chairman of the GDR trade union confederation FDGB on Wednesday for use as a vacation center.

"With the handing-over of the Waren site as an FDGB vacation center, the GDR party and state leadership is demonstrating its determination to ensure that the results of the disarmament measures are immediately put to good effect in improving the living conditions of our country's citizens," states a certificate signed by Prime Minister Willi Stoph, which Army General Heinz Kessler read out.

At the meeting, Harry Tisch pointed out that the shorter-range Soviet missiles had been brought there because NATO began in 1983 to station Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe, especially in the FRG. As a result, the Warsaw Pact states were forced to modernize their arms. It was not a step taken gladly, but it was necessary in order to reliably guarantee the security of the socialist community of states. Our party, said Tisch, has called on us to struggle even more resolutely for disarmament and peace.

It is clearly demonstrated here today, said Harry Tisch, how in socialism, disarmament has immediate benefits for people and their welfare. Peace, work, and socially secure conditions are fundamental conditions for a dignified existence.

For us, the fundamental human right to a life in peace is paramount, he said. We respect and implement human rights in that we guarantee full employment, social security, broad democratic participation, and good and expanding conditions for recuperative vacations and leisure pursuits. This indivisible connection between a strong socialism and a secure peace is also reflected in our motto: "My workplace, my battle station for peace."

We have always supported peace with our hearts and minds. This is also served by the proposed international meeting in the GDR in 1988 for nuclear weapons-free zones. This has shaped our actions at all times, and continues to do so. All the poison aimed at socialism in our country, I will state quite openly, is incitement, lies, and slander, Harry Tisch said.

Mikhail Gorbachev submitted further peace proposals for the Mediterranean region in his speech in Belgrade a week ago. More and more proposals and initiatives are emanating from the Soviet Union and the other socialist community states, aimed at bringing a world of peace closer to mankind.

By contrast, the most aggressive circles in NATO are devoting themselves to the modernization of nuclear weapons and the creation of new weapons. The production of dangerous new chemical weapons has begun in the United States. Our position, on the other hand, is to advance from one zero option to another so that the world is free of nuclear weapons by the end of the century, said Tisch.

Without wanting to interfere anywhere, we must pose the question: Could this not also cause the Western countries to consider how the elimination of the medium-range missiles could be turned into a practical social benefit for working people? When we look to the west of the Elbe and Werra, we see continuing high mass unemployment there, the individual's increasing fear for his existence, the rigorous dismantling of social services, and the expansion of the new poverty as determining signs of the times. Instead of increasing military expenditure, the money should be used to make the lives of people easier. We know that this corresponds with many demands raised by trade union colleagues in the capitalist states.

Harry Tisch gave an assurance that the first holiday-makers would move into this new home as early as the beginning of July. The FDGB will then have at its disposal more than 695 vacation homes. [passage omitted]

Journalists Tour Site

LD231854 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1313 GMT 23 Mar 88

[By ADN Editors Peter Heinze and Ekkehard Beisker]

[Text] Waren, 23 Mar (ADN)—On Wednesday, journalists from throughout the world had the opportunity—immediately prior to the handing over of the National People's Army [NVA] site in Waren-Mueritz to the FDGB as a holiday home—to take a close look at the facilities of the Soviet missile brigade that was stationed here until a few days ago. The brigade was withdrawn to the Soviet Union earlier than originally envisaged for the destruction of the medium-range missiles of the shorter-range (SS-12) OTR-22 type.

The reporters, photographers, and cameramen saw first of all the living quarters of the soldiers and their families, and the barracks at the site, which was handed over for use by the Soviet Army in December 1983. In the mess area, with the dining halls, the journalists were given details by Colonel Guenter Heintze from the GDR Defense Ministry.

The way then led to the parking and technical zone of the Soviet missile brigade. Garages for maintenance work were to be seen along 2 sides of a broad paved area. Only about 1 month ago, the Soviet missile troops [preceding word in Russian "raketchiki"] demonstrated their mastery to GDR journalists at this very site. In the shortest possible time they made ready for combat one of the 12.38-meter surface-to-surface missiles with a 900-km range.

On the service and repair buildings, Cyrillic letters recall the former users. Six entrances, some of outsize proportions for the mobile four-axle launching ramps weighing a total of 30,800 kg, and high structures indicate that the engineering personnel could also work on the raised missiles.

The representatives of the press, radio, and television stations noted with interest that a separator was used to clean accumulated dirty water for repeated use in order to avoid danger to the water table and environment.

In the lightly covered garages for general vehicles, oil and tire marks are still visible from the vehicles recently accommodated. The light steel doors were open for photographers and camera crews. In February, the last Soviet OTR-22 (SS-12) missile was "packed" here in a transport container. It has, meanwhile, arrived in Kazakhstan for destruction, like other missiles of this type formerly deployed in the GDR.

NVA officers spoke about the future application of these rooms for storage purposes. After the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, U.S. inspectors will be able to see in Waren that the Soviet Union, the GDR, and the other allies are realizing nuclear disarmament according to the treaty.

The international press then had their first-ever opportunity to view the former storage areas for the troop unit's warheads, which also have been withdrawn.

It became clear that the site was secured with the highest military vigilance. Immediately outside the prohibited zone stood a training and duty building. The warheads were kept in two bunkers protected by strong concrete walls and several-meter high earth embankments. These bunkers are around 25 meters long and 5 meters high, with temperature regulators, fire alarms, ventilation, as well as pressure doors made of steel and concrete. On each door, one can still read in Russian "Duty." Outside both bunkers are two covered ramps, in camouflage colors and overgrown with turf and shrubs.

The missile troops were accommodated in the now-empty barracks for more than 3 years.

The journalists present, from 16 countries and from West Berlin, were able to ask questions and inform themselves about everything that interested them. NVA officers answered questions regarding details of the development of the deployment site for the OTR-22 missiles, its use by the members of the Soviet Army, and its future use.

In a conversation, several correspondents, including the representatives of the RHEINISCHE POST, the NEUE RUHRZEITUNG, and the Vienna KURIER assessed the premature withdrawal of intermediate-range missiles

as an important step toward securing peace. The press representatives acknowledged the generous information about the former missile base.

POLAND

Envoy Says NATO Presents 'Distorted Picture' *LD172237 Warsaw PAP in English* 2110 GMT 17 Mar 88

[By PAP correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, March 17—The 44th round of the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe ended here today.

During the meeting, attended by delegations from seven Warsaw Treaty states and 12 NATO countries, the head of the Polish delegation, Ambassador Tadeusz Strulak, said that the Washington treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles, as well as the positive results of the Soviet-American summit contributed to the improvement of the international situation and had a positive influence of the security of all states, including those participating in the Vienna disarmament negotiations. Ambassador Strulak drew attention, however, to the fact that there still exists the danger of the return of tension since the enormous military arsenals have been reduced to a still inconsiderable degree.

Referring to the recent NATO summit, Ambassador Strulak noted that the NATO countries were presenting a distorted picture of the asymmetry of armed forces in Europe and that they expected the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty states to make practically unilateral moves to eliminate this asymmetry. What is more—NATO reserves itself the right to continue arming itself under the pretext of compensating the nuclear weapons being eliminated in accordance with the Washington Treaty. This compensation would undermine not only the positive effects of that agreement but could also lead to an exceedingly expensive and dangerous conventional arms race.

In connection with the above, Ambassador Strulak quoted Foreign Affairs Minister Marian Orzechowski's recent Sejm address in which Orzechowski voiced his support for a different vision leading to common security. "We see the need of such an evolution of the defense system which would guarantee to us and other countries a fuller security, a joint security and—not the least significant—a cheaper security," Orzechowski said. Strulak recalled that this long-sighted approach was mirrored in all joint proposals put forward by the Warsaw Treaty member states, as well many other proposals put forward by the individual states—including the Jaruzelski Plan.

Poland's delegate presented the main causes of the long term impasse in the Vienna negotiations, drawing particular attention to the West's persistent reluctance to discuss the question of limiting armaments, as well as to the need of the adoption by the West on an appropriate attitude to the verification issue.

Strulak stressed that the socialist states voiced their support for a positive outcome of the Vienna negotiations and still believe that agreement is possible on condition that there exists mutual interest, good will, understanding and a sense of realism.

ROMANIA

Romanian Envoy Addresses Geneva Conference
AU102038a Bucharest AGERPRES in English
2010 GMT 10 Mar 88

[Text] Geneva, AGERPRES, 10/3/1988—Speaking in the plenum of the disarmament conference in Geneva, the Romanian representative stressed that in the current international situation which keeps serious and complex the halting of the arms race and a resolute passage to disarmament, to nuclear disarmament first and foremost, are fundamental problems. [sentence as received]

Though certain steps were taken toward solving problems through negotiations, no radical change has produced yet in the way of thinking and acting in the

international life, the speaker showed. [sentence as received] That is why recently, through President Nicolae Ceausescu's voice, the Romanian people declared for intensified efforts toward concluding new accords on strategic nuclear arms reduction, the cessation of nuclear tests, renunciation of outer space militarization and complete elimination of nuclear weapons, calling upon the United States and the other NATO countries as well as upon the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty countries to give up the manufacture and improvement of new nuclear weapons in Europe, to act so as to remove all suchlike arms from Europe and the world.

The Romanian representative proposed the setting up of a special committee of the conference apt to pass on to basic debates and the elaboration of the provisions of an international treaty on the total banning of nuclear tests on the basis of all the suggestions made during the proceedings.

He also proposed the creation of a special committee on negotiations which should examine and agree upon measures aiming at preventing any actions and programmes of arming in the space or its use for military purposes, the elaboration of regulations and measures apt to ensure its use for peaceful purposes alone, outside any arms race, the setting up within the UN of a special body both to control the observance of the accords on the non-militarization of space and to ensure its peaceful use.

Presidential Candidates' Positions on Arms Issues Viewed

18070071 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 1 Mar 88 p 7

[Article by special APN and SOVETSKAYA KULTURA correspondent Edgar Cheporov: "Whom to Elect? Remarks on the U.S. Presidential Electoral Campaign"]

[Excerpt] Along with economic and social problems, questions of keeping the peace and disarmament will now be more acute than ever before. Here is how the main presidential candidates approach the voters in this area.

Dukakis. The only way to protect against the horrors of nuclear war, he believes, is the avoidance of such a war. As president he would reduce military expenditures and set up "star schools" instead of "star wars."

Gephardt. He is for observance of the SALT-2 and ABM treaties and negotiations with the Soviet Union to curtail the arms race.

Jackson. He opposes SDI and is for observance of the SALT-2 Treaty, negotiations on disarmament, and the traditional interpretation of the ABM Treaty.

Bush. He supported the Washington INF Treaty; his positions are considered to be the most pacific of the Republican candidates.

Dole. He voted against banning nuclear weapons tests, the moratorium on anti-satellite weapons, and the traditional interpretation of the ABM Treaty. He is for MX missiles, chemical weapons, and SDI. He supported the Washington Treaty after lengthy opposition.

Kemp. The main thing in his presidential program is anticommunism and the demand to increase military spending. He intends to transform the elections into a referendum on SDI. He has always voted for the MX missile, the B-1 bomber, the neutron bomb, and nerve-paralytic gas and against all treaties aimed at disarmament. He called the Washington Treaty a "nuclear Munich threatening the future of the NATO countries."

Robertson. He supports an "inflexible" policy. If president, he promises to close all Libyan ports, mining them. He is against agreements with the USSR on arms control.

The candidates cannot avoid concrete and detailed definition of their positions in regard to curbing the arms race. But Kemp and Robertson, if they are to remain alive in the last stages of the election marathon, have to explain why they support this race. The visit of the U.S. President to the Soviet Union, ratification of the INF Treaty, the possible signing of new, even more extensive agreements on nuclear weapons reduction are before us. The American elections cannot fail to be influenced by these events. I think that they will determine to a great degree the voters' attitude toward their candidates and the politician who will become the new president of the United States.

Missile TEL's Being Converted to Civilian Cranes

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 17 March 1988 broadcast a video report of new cranes being produced at the "Imeni Yanvarskogo Vosstaniya" Production Association in Odessa. The cranes incorporate the chassis used for missiles now being withdrawn from Europe. The broadcast shows the undercarriages with cranes mounted on top.

UD/335

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

FRG Submits Concept for Disarmament to NATO

*LD191101 Hamburg DPA in German
0935 GMT 19 Mar 88*

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—The Federal Government has submitted a concept for conventional disarmament in Europe to the NATO alliance. It stipulates that the Warsaw Pact states should reduce their troop strength in central Europe to 95 percent of NATO's present strength. The new concept has been developed by the Federal Defense Ministry and has already been reflected in the recommendations for conventional arms control made at the last NATO summit in Brussels.

Government sources in Bonn today reported that there should be joint upper limits of 14,000 combat tanks, 7,500 armored personnel carriers, and 7,500 artillery. NATO would have to remove 800 combat tanks, 400 armored personnel carriers, and 400 artillery, and the Warsaw Pact would have to dispense with 25,000 combat tanks, 11,000 armored personnel carriers, and 22,000 guns.

These weapons should either disappear altogether or be taken beyond the Urals to deprive the attacker of the possibility of invasion and the element of surprise in the event of a conventional war. It was assured that the main object was to "slow down" the "capacity for growth" of the East's troops. The Warsaw Pact would have to "disarm entire units." It would also be necessary to remove the supplies of military materials and munitions stored close to the GDR border.

According to competent sources, the reductions would take place in an area covering the Federal Republic, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, and Great Britain on the Western side. In the East, the affected areas would be the GDR, the CSSR, Poland, and the Soviet military sectors of the Baltic States, Carpathia, Belorussia, Moscow, Kiev, the Volga, and the Urals.

The military's calculation of the time scale for a conventional attack, proceeding from day zero, looks something like this: The Warsaw Pact gets 68 divisions moving up to day 5 and 86 between day 6 and 8; after that it is 124 divisions. NATO has 30 divisions to counter them in the 1st 5 days. According to these calculations it would take 40 to 45 days before the Western alliance had 48 divisions at its disposal, including troops from the United States and Canada.

The 7th to 9th day is seen as the "critical point." As a rule of thumb the German military strategists assume there will be a three-to-one overall superiority in favor of the opponent. In regional centers, the superiority is likely to be six-to-one.

If the Soviet Union is serious about security in Europe, then the elimination of this imbalance is intrinsically desirable, it is thought, and indeed "positively beneficial" for the Soviet Union from an economic point of view. With reference to the numerous disarmament offers made by Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, the government side underlined that the Kremlin chief must now "finally show" that he is concerned with reaching "tangible results" in the disarmament field.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Ruehe Urges Comprehensive Western Arms Stand

*DW151315 Bonn DIE WELT in German
15 Mar 88 p 1*

[Article by "HST": "Short-Range Weapons Not Credible"]

[Text] Bonn—Volker Ruehe, deputy chairman of the CDU/CSU Bundestag Group, yesterday advocated a general Western concept for security, arms control, and disarmament, a concept taking the especially exposed situation of the Germans in divided Europe into consideration. Such a model, which Bonn is pushing in various disarmament talks, is supposed to answer questions about the future structure and number of NATO nuclear weapons in and for Europe. Ruehe gives priority to defining the "absolute minimum" Western nuclear equipment. That qualitative and quantitative magnitude must serve to strengthen, not weaken Western defense. Ruehe: "The formula is that we want to maintain our strategy of preventing war with fewer nuclear weapons, but with a convincing structure, to make it acceptable and effective." First, any aggressor must be "credibly deterred" in any case; second, it must be clear to the Western public "that we want to reduce nuclear weapons in Europe to an indispensable minimum consistent with security policy."

Ruehe called it one of the "most urgent tasks" to clarify "how the absolute minimum is to be defined in figures and in quality of weapons, and what steps can be taken considering the conventional balance of forces between East and West." A concept draft, worked out by commission of the CDU/CSU Group chaired by Ruehe, urges that all nuclear weapons be included that would remain after the disarmament of intermediate-range missiles in and for Europe. Ruehe himself suggests coordinating further reductions with restructuring the remaining nuclear weapons arsenal. He wants to get rid of shorter-range systems that are "politically the least credible." German interests require "a shift toward longer-range systems." Neither the United States, Great Britain, nor France have nuclear weapons "planned for use on their own territory." The 4,000 systems remaining after the INF agreement are "not inconsiderable." Some 2,000 systems would be "quite sufficient."

Ruehe said about the German-Soviet agreement over the visit by Chancellor Kohl to Moscow and that of Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev that from a German point of view it is important to explore the continuation of the disarmament process. USSR preparedness to reduce its preponderance in the conventional and chemical fields, as well as in that of nuclear short-range missiles must be explored.

Woerner Asks European Sign of 'Good Will'
DW180650 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German
17 Mar 88 p 3

[Hans Joerg Sottrup report on interview with Defense Minister Manfred Woerner in Washington; date not given]

[Excerpt] At the end of the HANDELSBLATT talk with the federal defense minister, the common disarmament concept of the NATO partners came up. In this connection Woerner named "significant elements" of such a concept:

The concept must not be limited to nuclear aspects. It must become clear that the actual source of European instability is the imbalance in the field of conventional weapons. Woerner: "We must try in disarmament policy, particularly, to eliminate the Warsaw Pact's invasion capability."

In the nuclear sector, the strategic weapons of the United States and the Soviet Union must be reduced by 50 percent. Woerner: "This is an intention we agree with and appreciate very much."

In the chemical weapons sector, Bonn pursues the goal of abolition. Woerner says: "Total abolition."

The general disarmament concept must include the restructuring of nuclear weapons with a range under 500 km. Woerner: "That can be coordinated with a reduction of nuclear combat fields weapons."

Asked whether the disputed volume of modernization in that weapons category means an extension of their range, the federal defense minister said: "It could mean that."

Bundesrat Approves Bill on USSR Inspections
LD181324 Hamburg DPA in German
1038 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Soviet inspectors can now come to the Federal Republic to inspect U.S. missile installations. The Bundesrat cleared the way for this on Friday.

It unanimously approved a corresponding bill submitted by the Federal Government to enable inspections in line with the U.S.-Soviet accord on the reduction of intermediate-range missiles.

According to the Federal Defense Ministry, the Soviet inspection teams may comprise up to 10 persons. It announced on Friday that the teams for each individual inspection will arrive separately in the Federal Republic via Frankfurt Airport (military section). They will be accompanied mainly by U.S. and German personnel.

The withdrawal of the intermediate-range missiles will begin in line with the treaty stipulations after the INF agreement has come into force and after an initial inspection (within 90 days after the treaty comes into force) agreed under the treaty. This ensures that the withdrawal measures are verifiable in the sense of the agreement. The inspections could occur for 13 years.

Initial and concluding inspections will take place before the start of the withdrawal of intermediate-range missiles and after the complete evacuation of missile installations respectively. Once the INF treaty has come into force, up to 10 challenge inspections can also be carried out each year in the first 3 years. In the succeeding 5 years, up to seven challenge inspections can be carried out each year, and up to five challenge inspections a year can be carried out in the last 5 years. The missiles will be destroyed exclusively in the United States.

SPD Calls for Early Withdrawal of Pershing-1A
LD201221 Hamburg DPA in German
1140 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Excerpt] Hamburg (DPA)—The SPD welcomes the early withdrawal of Soviet SS-12 missiles from the GDR and the CSSR as a trust-building disarmament measure. Hermann Scheer, disarmament spokesman for the SPD Bundestag group, today again called on the Federal Government to keep the disarmament process going with a corresponding step. In Scheer's opinion, the early withdrawal of the Pershing-1A missiles, which belong to the Bundeswehr and are comparable to the SS-12, would be suitable for this purpose. [passage omitted]

In his statement published today, the SPD politician criticized the fact that the Federal Government is at the moment in stark contradiction of its pronouncements on disarmament in that it intends only to implement the withdrawal of the Pershing-1A's after the treaty comes into force, and then "at a snail's pace." Furthermore, Scheer said, Bonn is planning to keep the missile units, along with 3,900 soldiers, in order to have them ready for nuclear "replacement armament."